

U.S.S.N. 09/966,545
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Rule
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B5

20¹⁸ 74. (Amended) The nucleic acid of claim 72, wherein said nucleic acid comprises an open reading frame that encodes a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: [22] 16 or its complement, or a mutant or variant thereof.

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21¹⁸ 75. (Amended) The nucleic acid of claim 72, wherein said nucleic acid encodes a polypeptide comprising an amino acid of SEQ ID NO: [22] 16 or its complement.

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22²⁰ 76. (Amended) The nucleic acid of claim 74 wherein the nucleic acid encodes a mature form of a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence that is SEQ ID NO: [22] 16.

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23²¹ 77. (Amended) The nucleic acid of claim 75 wherein said nucleic acid encodes a polypeptide comprising an amino acid of SEQ ID NO: [22] 16, a mutant or variant thereof.

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24¹⁸ 78. An oligonucleotide sequence that is complimentary to and hybridizes under stringent conditions with the nucleic acid of claim 72, a variant or mutant thereof.

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25²⁴ 79. (Amended) The oligonucleotide sequence of claim 78 which is complementary to at least a portion of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: [21] 15, its complement, or a mutant or variant thereof.

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26²⁰ 80. An isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence complementary to at least a portion of a nucleic acid according to claim 74.

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27¹⁸ 81. A vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 72.

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28²⁷ 82. A cell comprising the vector of claim 81.

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29²⁸ 83. (Amended) The cell of claim 82 wherein said cell is a prokaryotic or eukaryotic cell comprising the nucleic acid sequence which is SEQ ID NO: [21] 15, its complement, or a mutant or variant thereof.

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84. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the nucleic acid of claim ~~72~~¹⁸ and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

B16 31
85. (Amended) A process for producing a polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid of claim ~~72~~¹⁸, said process comprising:
a) providing [the] a cell comprising a vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim [82]
~~18~~¹⁸ ~~72~~;
b) culturing said cell under conditions sufficient to express said polypeptide; and
c) recovering said polypeptide,
thereby producing said polypeptide.

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86. The process of claim ~~85~~³¹ wherein said cell is a prokaryotic or eukaryotic cell.

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87. A process for identifying a compound that binds the nucleic acid of claim ~~72~~¹⁸, the process comprising:
a) contacting said nucleic acid with a compound; and
b) determining whether said compound binds said nucleic acid sequence.

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88. The compound identified by the process of claim ~~87~~³³.

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.121(c), a clean version of the claims is attached as pages 94-95 in the substitute specification.

REMARKS

Upon entry of the above amendments, claims 72-88 will be pending. Amendments to the title, claims 72, 74-77, 79 and 83 and to the abstract on page 96 are supported at least, *e.g.*, in the specification as originally filed at page 14, lines 4-19. Claims 85 was amended to remove multiple dependency, and is supported by claims 81 and 82 as filed.